

Project Legacy Questions

Who will select Workgroup members and how will they be selected?

The Commission's approved Legacy Workgroup categories will guide First 5 California management and the Program Committee in identifying potential participants. The Program Committee is a sub-group of the First 5 California Commission.

Will counties be included in the Workgroup?

Yes. There will be First 5 county commission representation on the Workgroup.

How can I make Workgroup membership suggestions?

If you have Workgroup membership suggestions, please submit them to the Project Legacy inbox at LegacyQuestions@ccfc.ca.gov.

How much money will be dedicated to the new programs?

The Commission will decide the amount that will be dedicated to each Signature Program and Pilot Project. In making its recommendation to the Commission, staff will consider:

- Short and long-term account projections, and
- The appropriate level of funding necessary for each program or project to produce the desired results

What is the Center for Collaborative Policy's experience in facilitation?

The Center has a long track record working with diverse stakeholder groups to develop policy recommendations for government agencies' and their governing boards' consideration. Since its inception in 1992, the Center has planned and facilitated more than 200 of these stakeholder groups on complex and controversial issues such as water, mental health, education, and medical care to name a few. The Center specializes in building consensus within diverse groups ranging from 20 – 80 participants. The Center is a service unit of California State University, Sacramento.

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Project Legacy Questions, Continued

Will the information acquired through this process be publically available?

Yes. One of the deliverables in First 5 California's contract with the Center for Collaborative Policy is documentation of the process and outcomes.

What is the Project Legacy needs assessment?

The needs assessment will identify populations that experience school readiness gaps in California and answer questions such as:

- How large are these populations?
- Are they increasing, decreasing or static in numbers?
- Has readiness improved, worsened, or stayed constant over time for each group?
- Within each group, how do they measure against indicators of family functioning, child health and child development?

In addition, the needs assessment will identify delivery systems for social services, preschool and health care for those populations experiencing school readiness gaps and answer questions such as:

- Are the delivery systems sufficient to meet the demand for services for those experiencing school readiness gaps? If not, where are the largest service gaps?

Last, the needs assessment will document Trends by answering questions such as

- Are there any trends that may impact demand for or supply of services? (e.g., increasing autism rate or the decrease in available funding to support services)
 - Are there any legislative initiatives with broad support that could impact demand for or supply of services?
 - What are the best and promising practices for service delivery? What are the associated outcomes? Do they have benefit/cost ratios?
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Will there be public review of the proposed signature and pilot programs?

We will ask Legacy Workgroup members to review proposed programs to ensure consistency with the criteria. The public is always welcome to comment on all issues brought before the First 5 California Commission at the Commission meetings.

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What will happen to programs when they expire?	First 5 California will meet all its financial obligations for its existing programs and contracts up to the date of expiration. For example, First 5 California currently has contractual agreements to provide funding in support of Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards and Migrant Education Even Start through December 31, 2009. First 5 California will not provide funding to support these programs after December 31, 2009.
Can programs get extensions?	There are currently no plans to extend existing contracts for time or money.
What happens to unspent program funds?	First 5 California has adequate funds set aside to meet all financial obligations under its current contracts. If funding partners are unable to draw down First 5 California matching dollars at their anticipated rate, all funds not expended at the end of the contract will revert back to the appropriate First 5 California statutory account. These funds will be available to fund First 5 California's Signature Programs and Pilot Projects.
How long will this process take?	Because our progress is so dependent on others, we cannot say for certain, but we would like to have the criteria developed by the end of summer 2009, and request funding for new programs before the end of 2010.
Will there be a gap in funding?	We do not anticipate providing "gap" funding. "Gap" funding presupposes that Matching Grants will be continued in their current form. First 5 California expects to create 2-3 signature programs and a few pilot projects with the criteria adopted by the Commission. These new programs may include elements of current programs.
What does First 5 California consider its programs?	First 5 California considers the following to be programs: School Readiness, Power of Preschool, Special Needs Project, Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards, Health Access, Migrant Education Even Start, First Smiles, Constructing Connections, and California Smokers' Helpline.

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How will the public be updated on Project Legacy Progress?

First 5 California staff will provide the public with updates on Project Legacy through periodic updates to the First 5 California Commission, articles in the County Connection and dedicated Project Legacy space on our Web site. The Web site includes an inbox at LegacyQuestions@ccfc.ca.gov for Project Legacy questions, an up-to-date list of frequently asked questions and an opportunity to sign up for Project Legacy messages by submitting your e-mail address to projectlegacy-subscribe@ccfc.ca.gov. In addition, the public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the criteria at three public meetings in Northern, Central and Southern California.
